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The English People Overseas. By A. WYATT TILBY. In four volumes. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1912. Pp. x, 302; viii, 286; vii, 441; viii, 452.)

HERE is only half of what is apparently intended for an eight-volume history of the British Empire. Ultimately, therefore, the present lack of indexes and maps may be remedied by the reputable firm which has undertaken the publication of these books in this country. In view of the necessities and longings both of students and more casual readers the whole enterprise on such a scale arouses optimistic interest. Certainly here are problems of research, condensation, and style which would task a modern Gibbon. With respectful appreciation of at least some of the difficulties which inevitably confronted the author and with wrath stirred by some of the revelations here involved, the writer is obliged to continue this review.

A catholic style and range are suggested in the notice that with the end of the Victorian Age, by October 11, 1899, when the South African War began, Tennyson "had crossed the bar" and "Swinburne's songs had all been sung" (IV. 451-452). In the course of like imperial and poetic comment the author discovers his teleological conviction (III. vi) that each generation "sailing quickly or slowly, with resignation or with sorrow, on that solitary voyage over mist-bound and shadow-stricken seas", has left behind a chore for the student of history. Fortunately the student has a strong stomach. At all events we are henceforth and without regret concerned with the demonstration of the author's melancholy conviction and the possibly moist accomplishment of his task.

By a cleverly scheduled itinerary the author in his imperial boots tiptoes from island to island in his chapter on the Ocean Highway of Britain (vol. II.). His two concluding chapters (vol. IV.) on Victorian Britain: 1832-1899, though containing abundant reference to "anti-imperial politicians" and the "little Englishers" who "hated the modern Empire of Britain", fail curiously to supply an adequate appreciation of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain. But such notice may lurk in volumes reserved to the Edwardian Age. Otherwise the plan is clear. Volume I. (*The American Colonies, 1583-1763*) is here revised from an edition of 1908 into which "one or two errors" had "crept" (p. viii). Volume II. (*British India, 1600-1828*) is a second and augmented version; volume III. (*British North America, 1763-1867*) is virgin and also volume IV. (*Britain in the Tropics, 1527-1910*), which includes treatment of the West Indies, Northern and Central Africa, Mauritius, Ceylon, Malaya, the Far East, etc. By elimination we may gauge the scope of the four remaining volumes which are not at present under consideration.

Secondly, comes the author's frank fear lest "to specify the exact ingredients and composition of every dish upon the menu" may "also provoke indigestion" (I. viii). This is not impossible, though the writer confesses to a domestic interest in recipes. But Mr. Tilby has been per-

suaded to make occasional foot-notes and at the beginning of a number of chapters are automatic bibliographies. They compel attention. To examine a few of them may help us to see what chance the author has given himself to tell his eight-volume story truthfully. Thus, for the First Puritan Colonies: 1620-1658, are noted (I. 65, note) Doyle and Bancroft. "Both mention many original writers" concerning whom the material on the Winthrops cited in the *Dictionary of National Biography* is apparently for the use of further investigators. But "Justin Winsor is also useful". Again we have a chapter on the English East India Company: 1600-1700 (vol. II., bk. vi.). Unfortunately the English East India Company did not receive a royal charter till 1698 and its controversy to 1708 with the London East India Company, founded in 1599-1600, stands even in ordinary general histories as an affair of note. We, therefore, shall not be surprised to learn (II. 21, note) that "there is no history of the East India Company which can be regarded as authoritative; the official series of Indian records and Indian texts now being published promise to be of great value; but every other writer has been superseded by the monumental works of Sir W. Hunter". The preface to this revised second volume is dated in 1910 from Wimbledon, not nine miles from the hospitable archives, whence during the last fifteen years and more, volume after volume of priceless records for the period and subject to which the author refers have issued under the patient editorial direction of Mr. William Foster and his collaborators. We recall, nevertheless, in the year 1910 that these Indian records "promise to be of value". Indeed they do. At least the introductions to these volumes might have been "of value" to our author. To be sure he speaks of pamphlets in that inconvenient treasure-store of material—the Guildhall Library—and says they are "of interest". They are. The bibliographies on Canadian and West Indian subjects indicate a wider range. However, when the scale and scope of this work are considered, its pretensions and the general result compel the doubt whether the author as historian of the British Empire can justly require further notice at this time and in these pages.

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Les Sources de l'Histoire de France, XVI^e Siècle (1494-1610). Par HENRI HAUSER, Professeur à l'Université de Dijon. Tome III., *Les Guerres de Religion (1559-1589)*. (Paris: Alphonse Picard et Fils. 1912. Pp. xiii, 327.)

THREE years have elapsed between M. Hauser's second and third volumes, but every one will quickly agree with him that the work could hardly have been done in less time. In certain particulars the task has been easier than in the earlier volumes, for the field has been more worked. The labor of "discovery" has been less. On the other hand, the polemical literature of the period is so great, like the *Mémoires de*